Amendments to the Claims

1 - 8 (cancelled)

9. (currently amended): A method of providing RLP data checking comprising: receiving a plurality of RLP data frames; identifying from the RLP data frames a suspected bad frame, reclassifying the suspected bad frame to form a reclassified frame, wherein the reclassified frame is an erasure; and passing the reclassified frame to a RLP data detector.

10. (cancelled)

- 11. (currently amended): The method of claim 40 9, wherein the step of reclassifying the suspected bad frame comprises inserting a place holder frame.
- 12. (currently amended): The method of claim 10 9, wherein the step of reclassifying the suspected bad frame comprises characterizing a received a valid data frame as an invalid data frame responsive to a data frame sequence parameter.
- 13. (currently amended): The method of claim 49 9, further comprising the step of sequencing the plurality of RLP data frames according to data frame sequence identifiers to form a data frame sequence.
- 14. (original): The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of modifying the data frame sequence responsive to a data frame sequence parameter.
- 15. (currently amended): The method of claim 40 9, further comprising the step of validating the data frame sequence.





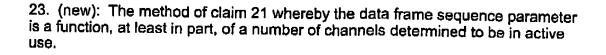
- 16. (original): The method of claim 15, further comprising, before the validating the data frame sequence, the step of receiving a next data frame sequence.
- 17. (original): An apparatus for RLP data checking comprising:

filtered data frame output for suspected bad data frames.

a frame serialization stage, the frame serialization stage coupled to receive a plurality of RLP data frames, each of the plurality of RLP data frames having a sequence number and the frame serialization stage being operable to provide a sequenced data frame output;

a frame filter coupled to the frame serialization stage to receive the sequenced data frame output and to provide a filtered data frame output; and wherein, place holder frames are inserted in the sequenced data frame output for suspected omitted frames, and erasure frames are inserted in the

- 18. (original): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the frame serialization stage is coupled to receive a next expected sequence number.
- 19. (original): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the frame serialization stage is coupled to an output of a frame CRC check stage and the frame filter is coupled to an input of an RLP data layer.
- 20. (new): The method of claim 9 whereby the step of identifying a suspected bad frame comprises :
- retrieving a data frame sequence identifier from a received valid data frame; and
- comparing the data frame sequence identifier with a data frame sequence parameter.
- 21. (new): The method of claim 20 whereby the plurality of RLP data frames can be transmitted across a plurality of channels.
- 22. (new): The method of claim 21 whereby the data frame sequence parameter is a function, at least in part, of a number of channels that the plurality of RLP data frames can be transmitted across.



24. (new): The method of claim 23 whereby a channel is determined to be in active use by:

maintaining a consecutive erasure count for each of the channels; and comparing at least one of the consecutive erasure counts with at least one threshold.

- 25. (new): The method of claim 21 whereby at least one of the channels is a Discontinuous Transmission (DTX) channel.
- 26. (new): The method of claim 9 wherein occurrence of the step of reclassifying the suspected bad frame is dependent on whether a channel is determined to be currently in active use.
- 27. (new): The method of claim 9 wherein occurrence of the step of reclassifying the suspected bad frame is dependent on an elapsed time from receiving a previous data frame sequence identifier.

